

Ford (*loc. cit.*) introduces the pale grey Aviemore 'race' of the Rannoch Sprawler, contrasting it with the much darker Rannoch form. In practice, the differences are not so clear-cut. The moths reared from my Aviemore female were strikingly variable, some being at least as pale as Ford's illustration of this race yet others quite as dark as his Rannoch example. Presumably Aviemore examples average lighter on the whole, but pale grey ones seem to be the exception not the rule.— ROY LEVERTON, Whitewells, Ordiquhill, Cornhill, Banffshire AB45 2HS.

**A new county record: a Silky Wainscot *Chilodes maritimus* Tausch. (Lep.: Noctuidae) in Cardiganshire (Ceredigion)**

A single specimen was caught in a Rothamsted Insect Survey light-trap at Aberystwyth (trap No. 585, O.S. Grid Ref.: SN 629836) on the night of 2/3 June 2004.

*Chilodes maritimus* is a locally common species, inhabiting large reed-beds in southern and eastern England. It is also found on the Gower peninsula; this being the closest known breeding locality to the trap site. The specimen was caught at the beginning of the species' flight period and it is well known that when moths migrate, they generally do so in the first few nights after emergence. Recent work by Dr Jason Chapman, of the Rothamsted Radar Entomology Unit, has shown that even weak-flying moths (such as *C. maritimus*) can travel several hundred kilometres in just one night, using fast-moving high-altitude winds. Therefore it is quite possible that this individual could have arrived in Aberystwyth from the Gower population.

My thanks to Ian Tillotson for his consistent hard work in identifying the catches from the Aberystwyth trap (amongst others) and for informing me of this record. Thanks also to Mike Leggett for operating the trap at Aberystwyth; and to Jason Chapman for the information above.— PHILIP J L GOULD, Co-ordinator, Light-trap Network, Rothamsted Insect Survey, Plant & Invertebrate Ecology Division, Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2JQ (E-mail: phil.gould@bbsrc.ac.uk).

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Tel: 01279 507697 E-mail: cpauk1@ntlworld.com